# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4175
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2008
TRADE TALKS UNDER WTO
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of road blocks in WTO talks with India; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to conclude the current round of trade talks under the aegis of WTO?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) The multilateral trade negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) under the Doha Work Programme, which were launched in November 2001, are still in progress.These negotiations have not yet concluded mainly due to gaps in the positions of WTO Members, particularly in respect of market access and domestic support issues in agriculture and market access issues in non-agricultural products. On 08 February 2008, the Chairpersons of the WTO's Committee on Agriculture (Special Session) and the Negotiating Group on Market Access brought out the Revised Texts on Draft Modalities on Agriculture and Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) respectively. The WTO Members are currently holding negotiations on these Revised Draft Modalities texts on Agriculture and NAMA and also on other issues covered by the Doha Work Programme, such as Services, Rules including Fisheries Subsidies, etc.

(b) Throughout the negotiations, India has been working constructively with coalition partners in developing country groupings in the WTO, such as the G-20, the G-33 and NAMA 11 and also with developed country Members with a view to achieving an outcome that would appropriately reflect the development dimension of the Doha mandate.